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Subject: **Commission on Aging Minutes for September 3, 2014**
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Commission on Aging Brookfield, CT
Regular Monthly Meeting September 3, 2014
Betsy called the meeting to order at 12:05

Present - Sue, Ellen, Carol, Eve, Betsy, Reet, Jeanette, Emily, Rich

CW RESOURCES FOOD PROGRAM

Art, a volunteer in the Brookfield Community Cafe at the Senior Center, was invited to address our concerns about the variety, nutritional value and minimal meal complaints. He shared September's menu with us. Reet presented a draft for our consideration and will E-mail a copy to each Commissioner for a thorough review. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided the best way to address our concerns was to separate the Meals on Wheels Program from the meals served Monday - Thursday at the Center for a donation of two dollars. Towns in Connecticut are under contract with CW Resources for another year and a half. At that time, the Commission will revisit the concerns. We will also recommend changes in the packaging of meals and milk cartons, delivered to seniors living alone, who find it difficult to open.

SPRING SEMINAR/COA

Sue shared letters she had written inviting guest speakers to the program planned for April 25, 2015 from 10 AM to 2PM at the Senior Center. Lou Ann Bloomer has been invited as the key note speaker to address seniors who wish to return to the work force. Other speakers will discuss legalities and the preparation of a resume. There will be time for questions and answers.

BROOKS QUARRY

Ten Kindles have arrived and can be signed out by the residents. Rich shared some of the programs and reported that Habitat for Humanity is doing some painting. He encourages town residents to write letters opposing CL&P'S proposed increases of 59% for regular customers and a 48% increase for electric heat customers.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Eighty-six Brookfield children benefited from the Back to School Backpack program. Those families will serve as a base for the annual holiday program. Visits to the Food Pantry as shown a slight increase. Appointments are currently being made for Energy Assistance applications as well as the Operation Fuel Program that helps avoid utility disconnection for eligible households.

SENIOR CENTER

The Powerful Tools for Caregivers has had an excellent response, and the **December Holiday Boutique** is in the planning stages. The ongoing classes and activities are well attended.

FISH

We are averaging twenty rides a month. Carol will coordinate requests in October.

Future items for the next meeting on Wednesday, October 1 include the **Senior Resource Guide** and a program for seniors offered by the Ridgefield Visiting Nurses and their **Commission on Aging**.

ADJOURNMENT 1:35 PM

Meeting notes submitted by Carol Howe